



Hon Greg Smith SC MP

Attorney General
Minister for Justice

MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW PRESIDENT OF THE GUARDIANSHIP TRIBUNAL

The Attorney General, Greg Smith SC, today announced the appointment of Malcolm Schyvens as the President of the Guardianship Tribunal of NSW.

The Guardianship Tribunal helps to protect and empower people with a decision-making disability, such as those with dementia. Its responsibilities include determining applications for the appointment of guardians and financial managers.

“Mr Schyvens has worked extensively with those who have a decision-making disability in NSW and Tasmania and has served as Deputy President of the Guardianship Tribunal of NSW for the past three years,” Mr Smith said.

After studying law and commerce at the University of Tasmania, Mr Schyvens was admitted as a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Tasmania in 1997.

Mr Schyvens was managing partner of a legal practice in Hobart from 2002 to 2008. He has also served as President of the Law Society of Tasmania, Chairman of the Law Foundation of Tasmania and a Director of the Centre for Legal Studies in Tasmania.

“While in Tasmania, Mr Schyvens demonstrated a commitment to people with an intellectual disability or a mental illness through several responsibilities he held,” Mr Smith said.

“He was a Legal Member of the Guardianship & Administration Board (2003-2008), a member of the Forensic Tribunal (2007-2008), and was the President of the Board of Cosmos Inc. (2001-2008), an organisation providing community-based life skills and recreational services to people with an intellectual disability.”

Mr Schyvens joined the Guardianship Tribunal of NSW in 2008. Since moving to NSW, he has also been a member of the Elder Law & Succession Committee of the Law Society of NSW.

Mr Schyvens will begin a five-year term as President of the Guardianship Tribunal on September 1, 2011.

“I congratulate Mr Schyvens on his appointment and wish him well,” said Mr Smith.